Livingstone Mountain ™&©1991 Steve Moncuse

COMIC SHOP NEWS™
7-31-91

The Psycho Offers a Glimpse at the Life of Riley

Psycho ™&©1991 DC Comics

Most people love the concept of super-heroes; the romantic ideal of super-powered beings who use their abilities to make life better for normal humans has an almost irresistible appeal. That appeal is wasted on Jake Riley, though: he really hates superheroes.

Imagine Jake's chagrin when he discovers that he must become a superhero in order to survive!

The Psycho, a new three-issue prestige-format limited series from DC, is the story of a man who learns that in order to beat 'em, you have to join 'em--even though it means that he must become that which he hates the most.

Jake Riley works for SIN, the Super-Intelligence Network. He's a mere human, though, so he's stuck in a "nowhere" job; all the glamorous assignments--and the promotions--go to the Freelance Costumed Operatives. We'd call them superheroes, but to the people at SIN, they're known as the Psychos because of their unpredictable behavior and their unorthodox--but effective--methods.

Jake's life goes awry when he finds himself the target of the very organization for which he has worked for so long. The only way he can survive an attack by Freelance Costumed Operatives of SIN is to become a Psycho himself. Before too long, Jake Riley becomes a superhuman, thanks to a specially designed body armor that gives him super-speed and lightning reflexes. The powers may enable him to overcome SIN--but even Jake has to wonder how these powers are going to change him mentally...

The Psycho is written by James Hudnall, who has also portrayed the "downside" of superhuman abilities in his series ***Espers*** and ***Interface.*** Hudnall also wrote ***Lex Luthor: The Unauthorized Biography*** for DC, as well as the "Red Glass" storyline that ran through the June cover-date ***Superman*** titles. The Psycho is Hudnall's first collaboration with award-winning artist Dan Brereton; Brereton previously garnered critical acclaim (and an Inkpot award for best newcomer) for his work on Eclipse's ***Black Terror*** comic.

With its irreverent, pragmatic, and sometimes sardonic look at superheroes, The Psycho should have a strong appeal for fans of books like Watchmen and Marshal Law.

To help ensure that no one overlooks the first issue of ***The Psycho***, DC is utilizing four varying fluorescent ink colors as attention-getting accents on the cover of the first issue of the series. There will be an equal number of copies produced using each of the four different fluorescent inks; subsequent issues of the series will be printed utilizing only one fluorescent ink color.

Each issue of ***The Psycho*** will feature 48 pages of story and fully-painted artwork for $4.95; the first issue is slated for release on August 8th.

by CLIFF BIGGERS

Nothing's Fishy About Livingstone Mountain

If you're looking for piscine private eyes in ***Livingstone Mountain,*** forget it; Steve Moncuse's latest creation doesn't have any fishy heroes at all (you'll find them all in ***Fish Shticks***). If, however, you're looking for monster-exterminator wannabees, intelligent dragons, and action-adventure galore, you'll find everything you want in this new Adventure Comics limited series.

Livingstone Mountain is the story of Scat and his dragon pal Rax; the two decide that the easiest way for them to make a living is to become monster exterminators. To make sure that there's a call for their business, they create a few monsters of their own--only to have them run amok! Before it's all over, it turns out that there really might be a need a for Scat and Rax: monstrous creatures are eating their way to the core of the Lizzert Reactor, and if Scat and Rax can't stop them, then it might be the end of their entire planet!

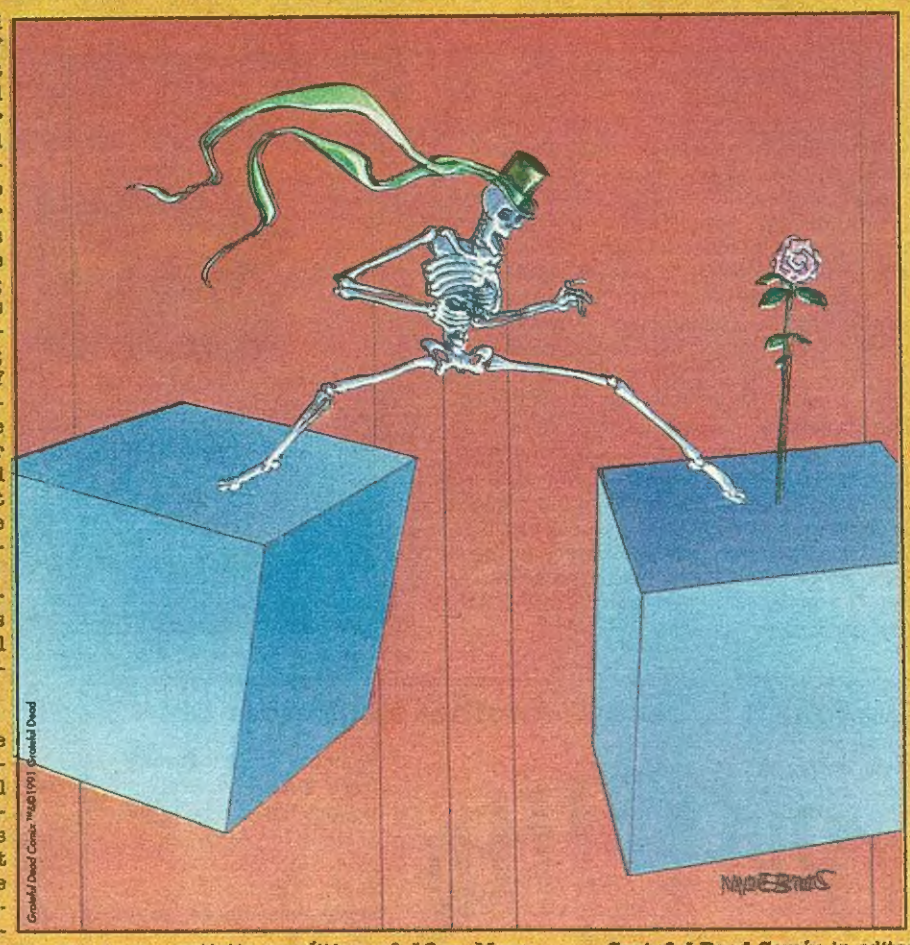
Livingstone Mountain #1 will also feature Art Adams' "How to Draw Comics the Art Adams Way," a behind-the-scenes look at the comics industry by one of its most popular creators.

Livingstone Mountain #1, scheduled for release in the next few weeks, begins a four-issue limited series by the creator of the ***Fish Police.*** Each monthly issue is priced at $2.50.

by CLIFF BIGGERS

Kitchen Sink Deadicated to New Comic

The Grateful Dead seem to be one of those groups that break the rules and still succeed. Their music has resisted the fads and gimmicks of modern pop production; their concert show has changed little in the past two decades; they encourage fans to record the concerts themselves; they handle most of their own merchandising to keep the prices low for their fans. One licensed project they saw fit to allow someone else to produce, however, is ***Grateful Dead Comix,*** a four-issue limited series that could very well grow in number before it's all over.



Grateful Dead Comix ™&©1991 Grateful Dead

Grateful Dead Comix will feature artistic interpretations of Grateful Dead songs and incidents in the band's career. The project is produced with the permission and cooperation of the Grateful Dead; it is not an unauthorized or unlicensed rip-off of this perennially popular band.

The first issue of ***Grateful Dead Comix*** will feature a cover by Dean Armstrong; an interpretation of the Dead song "Dire Wolf" written and drawn by Timothy Truman, featuring Jerry Garcia's likeness as the main character; the first part of an ongoing interpretation of "Terrapin Station" by Dan Steffan; and an artistic rendition of "One More Saturday Night" by Fred Carlson.

Other creators lined up for the ***Grateful Dead Comix*** series include Rand Holmes, John Wooley, and Moebius. Jerry Garcia and Bob Weir, members of the band and comics fans both, have been actively involved in the book's preparation and have personally approved all artist selections and the anecdotes and songs used in the comic book series.

Grateful Dead Comix is edited by Jeff Tamarkin, who is the former editor of the Dead fanzine ***Relix*** and the present editor of the music collector's magazine ***Gold Mine.***

Grateful Dead Comix #1, a 40-page magazine-sized full color comic intended for all ages, is priced at $4.95. Look for the first issue in July.

by LANNY LATHEM

A Comics Specialty Outlet
From:
100% RECYCLED NEWSPRINT
RECYCLE IT AGAIN!

QUICKSHOTS

Comic Shop News and Platinum Offer Readers a Really Limited Edition

Last week **CSN** gave readers the lowdown on the first two releases from Malibu's new Platinum imprint: **Buzz & Bell**, by Sergio Aragonés and **Abraham Stone** by Joe Kubert. This week we're announcing a chance for **CSN** readers to win a special one-of-a-kind collectable.

In addition to the regular $9.95 version Platinum has a special signed and numbered edition of each planned. Each copy of the limited edition will have a special plate bound in which will be signed and numbered by the creators.

Platinum is taking the first (#1) of the signed and numbered copies and is tipping in an additional plate into each. That plate will feature an original sketch by Aragonés for **Buzz & Bell** and an original sketch by Kubert for **Abraham Stone!** Sort of a #1 #1 and a unique collectable for sure!

Here's the best part -- Platinum is giving away each to two lucky readers of **Comic Shop News!** All you have to do to enter is to send a card or letter with your name and address and your store's name and address to:

CSN & Platinum's #1 #1 Giveaway
Platinum Editions
5321 Sterling Center Drive
Westlake Village, CA
91361

The deadline is August 15, 1991. Limit one entry per person. We'll announce the winners in **CSN** #219. Don't miss your chance for this unique collectible.

After all, how many chances do you get to ad a #1 #1 to your collection?

COMIC SHOP NEWS
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2112 & The Next Men™ &©1991 John Byrne

Byrne & Miller Together?...

John Byrne and Frank Miller, together in one publication? Well, yes--but not on the same story... **Dark Horse Presents #54,** an early September release, will feature part five of Frank Miller's noir-styled **Sin City** storyline as well as a John Byrne preview short story in his **Next Men** series; this story ties in with Byrne's upcoming **2112** graphic novel and the **Next Men** series that will follow it. Byrne and Miller are joined by John Arcudi and Gray Morrow, who contribute a new Homicide story, and Rick Geary contributes a short story, "Transgression Hotline." Gray Morrow supplies the cover painting for the issue. **DHP #54**, a 32-page black-and-white comic, is priced at $2.25.

Sin City™ &©1991 Frank Miller

A Fifty-Year-Old Teenager

A lot of high school students have yearbooks, but Archie Andrews is probably the only high school student who has a fifty-year-book! **Archie: His First 50 Years**, a 128-page hardcover by Charles Phillips, is a hardcover volume that traces the history of Archie, is creation, his creators, and his popularity. This volume also contains vintage comic book stories and oodles of trivia about Archie's comic book career; the text is accompanied by over 130 full-color illustrations. **Archie: His First 50 Years**, a September release from Abbeville Press, is priced at $29.95.

Ellison Wonderland

Harlan Ellison has written all too few comic book stories, but his name is almost as well known to comics fans as it is to fans of science fiction, fantasy, mysteries, horror, and television. Ellison has written fiction in every one of these genres and media--and has won awards in most of them. In addition, his non-fiction work is a joy to read, demonstrating an insight that all too few critics possess. Fans who haven't followed Ellison's career will be able to enjoy a massive retrospective in Morpheus International's **The Essential Ellison,** a massive volume featuring, as Morpheus International puts it, "Sixty-seven examples of the non-pareil writing of the man the Los Angeles Times labels, 'The 20th Century Lewis Carroll.'" **The Essential Ellison,** edited by Terry Dowling with Richard Delap and Gil Lamont and featuring an outstanding cover painting by Leo and Diane Dillon, contains over a thousand pages of Ellison's work; the book is available as both a $34.95 hardcover and a $19.95 trade paperback. If you haven't tried Ellison before, be sure to reserve a copy of this volume with the folks at your local comic shop; you won't regret it!

Readers Are Taken Under In New Series

"What do you do when you find out that your own father has promised your soul to the devil and now it's time to collect?" This is the question posed by Debra Rodia and Michael Lark's **Taken Under,** a series that ran in **Caliber Presents** last year. Now all the installments of Taken Under are slated to be collected in a one-shot **Taken Under** volume that will lead into an all-new **Taken Under** series debuting this fall. According to Caliber's publisher, Gary Reed, "This story is a hard-hitting horror thriller that should appeal to the same audience as **Hellblazer** and **Sandman.**" **Taken Under**, produced by the same team responsible for the critically acclaimed **Airwaves** series, is priced at $2.95; look for it in September.

Going For the Gold

DC's much-appreciated Archives series, dedicated to reprinting the best hard-to-find Golden Age and Silver Age books, continues this fall with the release of **Superman Archives Volume 3,** reprinting **Superman 9-12**. Among other highlights, these issues feature the first appearance of the bald Luthor. DC has called on Golden Age Superman artist Jack Burnley to supply the introduction for this 272-page hardcover volume. **Superman Archives Volume 3,** a $39.95 hardcover, is slated for September 26th release.

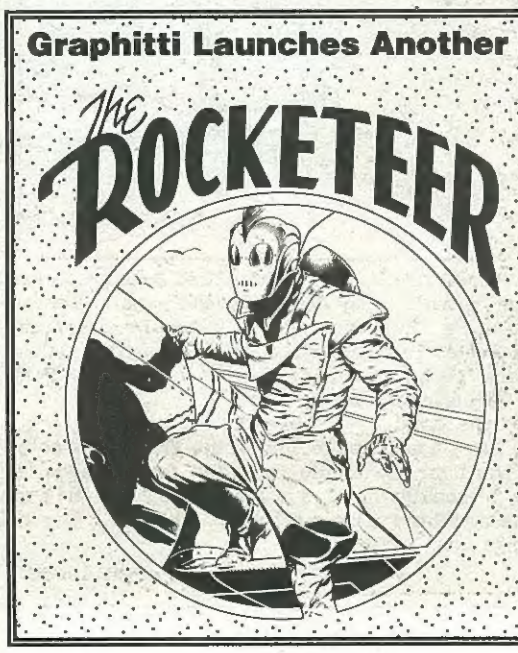
Superman™ &©1991 DC Comics

Cheech Wizard Volume One™ &©1991 Vaughn Bode

We're Off To See the Wizard...

Vaughn Bode's Cheech Wizard is almost ready to appear on the comics racks one again: Fantagraphics' **Cheech Wizard Volume 2,** a 64-page graphic album with a 16-page color section, is ready at last. This volume was postponed so that Fantagraphics could make sure the color and black and white pages reproduced the detail of the Bode originals. "Bode's black-and-white pages were actually often done in a subtle, dark sepia wash," Fantagraphics said. "On several of the pages in this edition, our separators have painstakingly replicated that effect, giving readers, for the first time, an idea of what the originals looked like." **Cheech Wizard Volume 2** also includes some never-before-published Cheech Wizard radio scripts, sketches, and more. **Cheech Wizard Volume 2,** a $9.95 trade paperback, is scheduled for late August/early September release.

Graphitti Launches Another Rocketeer Shirt



Rocketeer™ &©1991 Dave Stevens

Ready for another **Rocketeer T-Shirt**? Graphitti designs has coerced Dave Stevens to create yet another Rocketeer shirt for them; this one is set for September release, and it will (as always) be a full-color illo on a 100% cotton heavyweight white t-shirt. You may have seen other Rocketeer shirts on sale at department stores and so on, but remember: only comic specialty shops carry Rocketeer shirts with artwork by creator Dave Stevens, screenprinted on top-quality shirts. Graphitti's **Rocketeer VII t-shirt** is priced at $13.95.

A Half-Century of Victory

Who's the first patriotic superheroine in comics? The answer is Miss Victory, whose first appearance in the pages of **Captain Fearless #1** predated Wonder Woman by months. To celebrate Miss Victory's first appearance a half-century ago, AC Comics is issuing a 68-page **Miss Victory Golden Anniversary Special;** this book will feature a new Ms. Victory story by Bill Black, Brad Gorby, and Mark Heike; the first AC Ms. Victory story by Heike; new pin-ups by Dick Ayers, Lee Larkins, Mark Heike, Bill Black, and others, plus Golden Age reprints by Nina Albright, Charles Quinlan, L.B. Cole, and others (including the very first Miss Victory story!). The **Miss Victory Golden Anniversary Special,** a September release, is priced at $5; at the same time, AC will release a set of four different Miss Victory buttons, each priced at $1.25.

Miss Victory Golden Anniversary Special™ &©1991 AC Comics

Crime & Punishment

The Punisher has dealt with dozens of dangerous criminals--but in **Punisher #53,** he is the criminal as he is captured, tried, convicted, and sentenced to life imprisonment at Ryker's Island prison--which may be a short sentence indeed, since Gregario and Jigsaw are already there, and they're more than a little eager to meet up with the Punisher again...

They don't kill the Punisher, though; instead, they destroy everything that's important to him. Before long, his safe-houses are no longer safe, his money is gone, and his friends have disappeared. (It sounds like these guys have been taking lessons from the Kingpin's treatment of Daredevil , doesn't it?...)

So what does Frank Castle do in the face of such adversity? He gives up his Punisher identity! The seven-part biweekly series "leaves Castle stripped of his power and identity, and the solemn oath he swore to his dying wife and children is left unfulfilled," according to Marvel Direct Sales Assistant Manager Skip Dietz.

Can it be true? Right now, only writer Mike Baron and artists Hugh Haynes and Jimmy Palmiotti know for sure--but you'll be able to find out beginning with **Punisher #53** on August 22nd and continuing every two weeks after that through November.

Enjoy a Date With Comics Revue

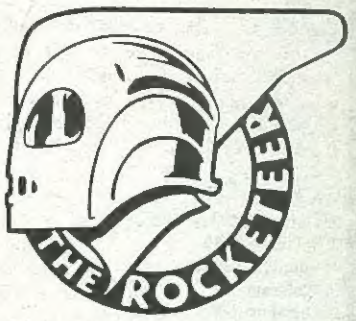
Ever wonder exactly when Nancy met Sluggo? When Beetle Bailey first joined the army? When Olive Oyl first kissed Popeye? You'll find these dates--and many, many more--in the **Comics Revue 1992 Calendar**. Don Markstein has gathered many hundreds of dates of important comic strip occurrences and has collected them all in this calendar that's a real must-have for comic strip fans. **The 1992 Comics Revue Calendar**, priced at $12.95, is slated for release in August. (Incidentally, the dates for the opening questions are January 24, 1938; March 15, 1951; and August 27, 1929, respectively--we didn't want to leave you hanging...)

A Big OMAC Attack

OMAC, the John Byrne prestige-format miniseries originally announced for May release and subsequently delayed, will hit the stands beginning on September 19th. The four-issue miniseries reintroduces Jack Kirby's OMAC in a stand-alone adventure that can be enjoyed by fans of the original **OMAC** as well as fans who've never heard of the character before now. Byrne is producing the series in black and white, using the lavish duotone style that has been so popular in his **Namor the Sub-Mariner** work. Since the book is being printed in prestige format without color, though, Byrne is able to do much more meticulous duotone work than he does in the pages of Namor. Furthermore, the price of the book has gone down; when **OMAC #1** hits the stands in mid-September, it'll be priced at only $3.95 for 48 pages in prestige format--and that's a dollar less than the originally announced price!

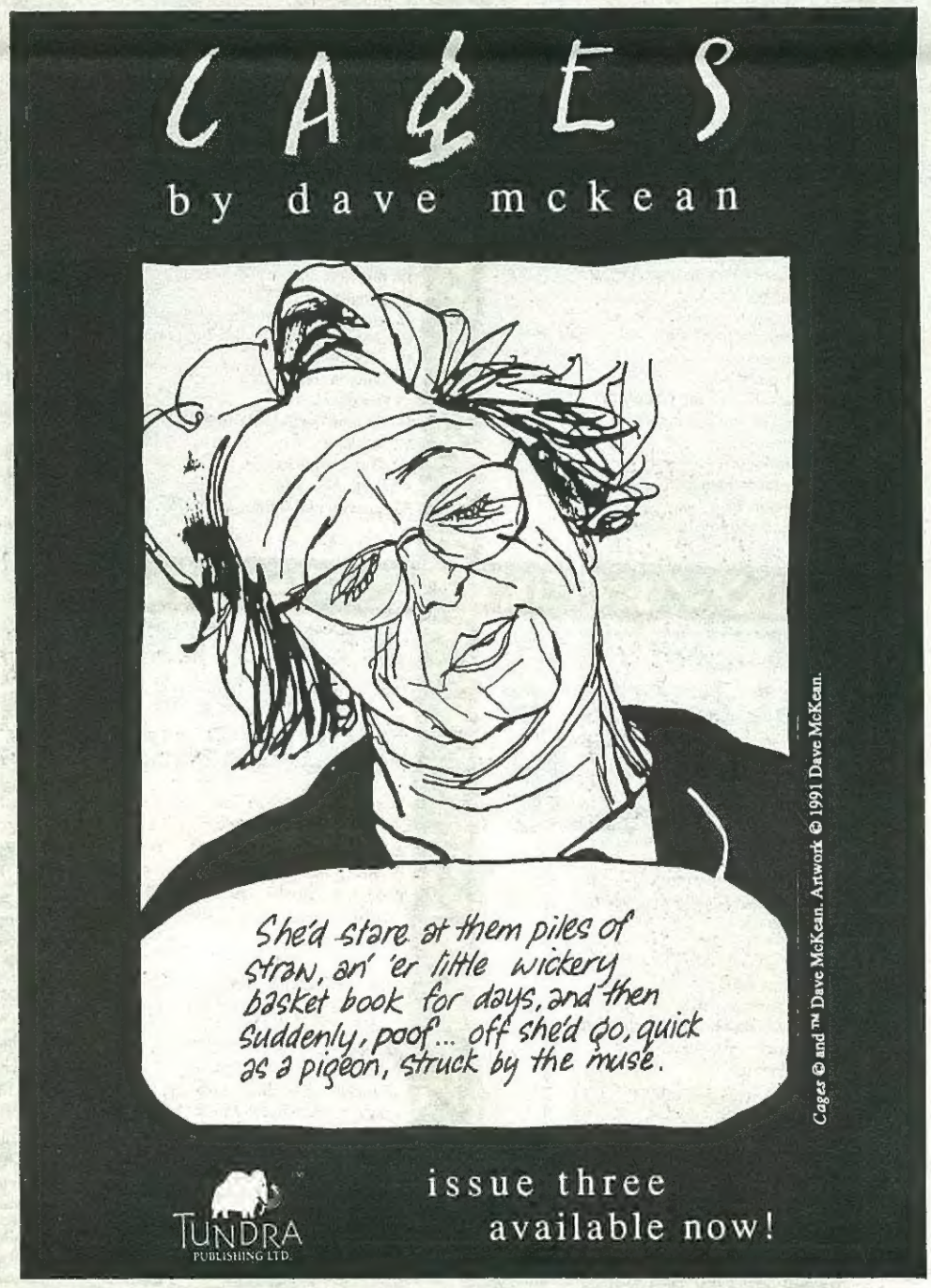
Maybe We Should Use Air Mail...

As we've taken a look at the various comic strips out there that we might add to the CSN line-up when the Batman strip wraps up its run, we've become aware that there are all too few action-adventure strips behind published. We've heard from several people about how great it would be to see a Rocketeer comic strip--and it does seem that Dave Stevens' Rocketeer would adapt perfectly to daily episodic adventure, doesn't it?



Will there be a Rocketeer comic strip? At present, it doesn't look likely--but Disney isn't saying it's definitely not going to happen, either. If you're interested in a Rocketeer comic strip, take a minute to let Disney know that you're interested--who knows, if they hear from enough people, it might come about! Drop Disney a line saying that you'd like to see a Rocketeer strip; send it to:

CSN Rocketeer Survey
Teri Sokol
Disney Comics
ROD #227-B • 500 S. Burena Vista
Burbank, CA 91521


CAGES
by dave mckean
She'd stare at them piles of straw, an' 'er little wickery basket book for days, and then suddenly, poof... off she'd go, quick as a pigeon, struck by the muse.
Cages © and ™ Dave McKean. Artwork © 1991 Dave McKean.
TUNDRA PUBLISHING LTD.
issue three available now!

CSN CHARTS

TOP 50 COMICS

CSN's Top Seller charts are based on figures supplied by the two major distributors, Diamond Distribution and Capital City Distribution, as well as figures by a cross-section of comics speciality shops. The distributor's figures represent retailer orders placed on the titles, while the information from stores represents copies sold.

1. X-Force 1
2. Uncanny X-Men 279
3. Spider-Man 13
4. Infinity Gauntlet 2
5. Wolverine 43
6. Uncanny X-Men Annual 15
7. X-Factor 69
8. X-Factor Annual 6
9. Amazing Spider-Man 350
10. Ghost Rider 16
11. Marvel Comics Presents 82
12. Marvel Comics Presents 83
13. Amazing Spider-Man Annual 25
14. Silver Surfer 52
15. Batman 467
16. Silver Surfer 53
17. Incredible Hulk 384
18. Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight 20
19. Deathstroke the Terminator 1
20. Deadly Foes of Spider-Man 4
21. Green Lantern: Emerald Dawn 5
22. Daredevil 295
23. Batman 466
24. Superman: Man of Steel 2
25. Predator: Big Game 4
26. Fly 1
27. Sleepwalker 3
28. Punisher 51
29. Spectacular Spider-Man Annual 11
30. New Warriors 14
31. Darkhawk 6
32. Namor the Sub-Mariner 17
33. Jaguar 1
34. Detective 633
35. Detective 634
36. Punisher Special 1
37. Dr. Strange 32
38. Punisher War Journal 33
39. Punisher P.O.V. 2
40. Spectacular Spider-Man 179
41. Original Ghost Rider Rides Again 2
42. Hawkworld Annual 2
43. Excalibur 40
44. Guardians of the Galaxy 15
45. Web of Spider-Man 79
46. Green Lantern 15
47. Terminator: One Shot
48. Fantastic Four 355
49. Demon 14
50. Solar, Man of the Atom 1

TOP DOLLAR COMICS

The following comics, graphic novels and trade paperbacks were given Top Dollar ratings based on the dollar volume of the copies sold (or are expected to sell) during the late June and July sales period.

1. X-Force 1
2. Infinity Gauntlet 2
3. Spider-Man 13
4. Uncanny X-Men Annual 15
5. Punisher P.O.V. 2
6. X-Factor Annual 6
7. Terminator: One Shot
8. Wolverine 43
9. Uncanny X-Men 279
10. Ghost Rider 16
11. Amazing Spider-Man Annual 25
12. Predator: Big Game 4
13. Amazing Spider-Man 350
14. Punisher Special
15. Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight j20
16. Deathstroke the Terminator 1
17. Hawkworld Annual 2
18. X-Factor 69
19. Marvel Comics Presents 82
20. Marvel Comics Presents 83
21. Dr. Strange 32
22. Spectacular Spider-Man Annual 11
23. Punisher War Journal 33
24. Excalibur 40
25. Silver Surfer 52
26. Batman 467
27. Dragonflight Book Two
28. Silver Surfer 53
29. Incredible Hulk 384
30. Deadly Foes of Spider-Man 4
31. Original Ghost Rider Rides Again 2
32. Green Lantern: Emerald Dawn II 5
33. Daredevil 295
34. Batman 466
35. Solar, Man of the Atom 1
36. Superman: Man of Steel 2
37. Demon 14
38 Green Arrow 50
39. Fly 1
40. Sleepwalker 3
41. Star Trek: The Modala Imperative 2
42. Star Trek: The Modala Imperative 3
43. Punisher 51
44. New Warriors 14
45 Darkhawk 6
46. Namor the Sub-Mariner 17
47. Jaguar 1
48. Detective 633
49. Detective 634
50. Spectacular Spider-Man 179

TOP 10 BLACK & WHITE COMICS

1. Dark Horse Presents 51
2. Cerebus 147
3. Bratpack 5
4. Baker Street 7
5. 3 X 3 Eyes 1
6. Venus Wars 3
7. Outlanders 30
8. Alien Nation: The Firstcomers 1
9. Planet of the Apes 12
10. Albedo 1

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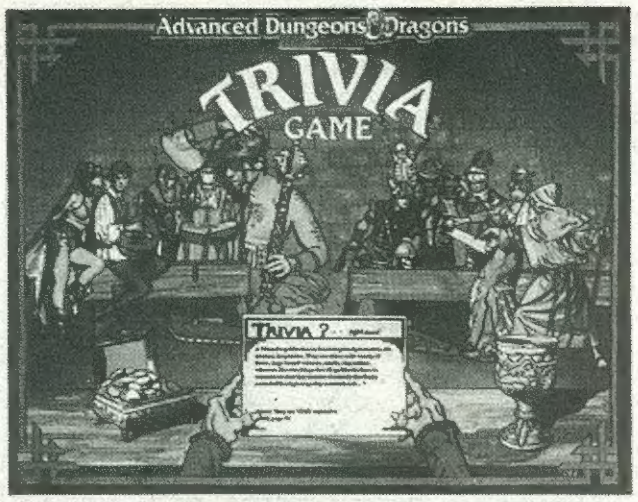
TOP TEN NON-COMICS

The Top Ten Non-Comics is based on number and not dollar value. This category includes graphic novels, hardcovers, trade paperbacks, portfolios, etc. It includes books that actually were on sale during the July sales period.

1. Marvel Universe Trading Cards Series 2
2. Wolverine: Bloody Choices
3. Hulk: Ground Zero
4. Batman: Sunday Classics
5. Terminator Collection
6. Rocketeer Trading Cards
7. Marvel Handbook Master Edition 9
8. Who's Who 12
9. Viking Prince HC
10. Comics Values Monthly 61

TSR Decides to Release Something Trivial

If you're one of those players who is constantly quibbling over the finer details of the rules for **AD&D** (or just one of those people who likes to memorize every available detail regarding your campaign), then **TSR** has the perfect product for you. The **AD&D Trivia Game** is the complete challenge for **AD&D** 'experts.' This will give even the most complete player or DM a real test as the questions that cover every aspect of the game force the player to the limits of his knowledge--and bring him back a more educated gamer. **The AD&D Trivia Game** is a massive boxed game that will retail for $24.95.



AD&D Trivia Game ™ &©1991 TSR, Inc.

The Jury Is In On The Outlaw Sourcebook

Fans of the Old West are sure to be happy to hear this--**ICE** is releasing the **Outlaw Sourcebook** for their **Rolemaster** system, pardners! The **Outlaw Sourcebook** details life and adventuring in the Wild West--everything from six-guns to bar-room brawls to romances to hopeless causes. The Rolemaster system is one of the most detailed and complete systems on the market, and this addition is sure to please the completists of the western genre. The 160-page **Outlaw Sourcebook** will rustle itself into stores in August for only $18.00, so be sure you're on hand to round it up.

A Handbook That's on the Cutting Edge

Ever wondered what a glaive was? How about a bill-guissarme? Well, maybe there's some help for you--**TSR** is releasing the **AD&D Arms and Equipment Guide**. This is the most comprehensive guide to weapons ever produced by **TSR**, and covers all of the weapons and equipment described in their gaming handbooks; not only that, but the **AD&D Arms and Equipment Guide** is also a comprehensive look at weapons, armor, and equipment from the Middle Ages. The Guide provides all of the information that the player or DM will need for his campaign, including cost, illustration, and gaming information to explain how an entry is used in a campaign. The must have **AD&D Arms and Equipment Guide**, due out in August, will sport a cover price of $15.00.

Adventures Fit for Fort Bevits

August sees the release of a new product for **Flying Buffalo's Lejentia** series. Designed for use with any system, **Fort Bevits** details the life of over 50 NPC's and gives the game-master over 70 different adventures to choose from. Not only that, but **Fort Bevits** also provides over 20 maps that detail the area of and surrounding the Tarin Tor fortress--an area littered with dark elves, demons, and those pesky Noville insectoids. The 160-page volume will retail for $14.95.

Fort Bevits ™ &©1991 Flying Buffalo

Any Old Monster In a Bladestorm...

If you've been playing the **Bladestorm** miniature combat rules system, but were finding it difficult to accept combat with a dragon, than your worries are over. The **Bladestorm Bestiary Sourcebook** from **ICE** contains a complete listing of monsters, undead, dragons, and other nasties to fight with in your **Bladestorm** game. Also provided in this 96-page guide are 13 scenarios for battle and charts for random encounter generation. All of this exciting information is included in the **Bladestorm Bestiary Sourcebook** for only $13.00! Wotta bargain!

R.I.P. Tears Into the Horror Gaming Market

TSR is finally making its foray into the world of modern horror. **R.I.P.** is the latest game from the award-winning designers at **TSR**, and is bound to dig up some attention. Set in the modern world, **R.I.P.** preys upon some of mankind's worst fears and puts the player in a position to do something about it. As he confronts the undead and all of their nasty friends (or is that fiends?), the player must vie for his life while attempting to stop these denizens of evil; but it won't be easy--the undead are not stopped by modern technology.

Contained in the boxed set are three rulebooks, full color cards, dice, maps, and everything that the player will need to get the adventure of his life--or maybe that should be death. **R.I.P.** will ship in August for the retail price of $20.00.

R.I.P. ™ &©1991 TSR, Inc.

GAMEBRIEFS

A Bright Spot for Darklords

TSR's Ravenloft campaign series has quickly proven itself to be one of the most popular additions to the **AD&D** line, and in August, the dimensional world gets a little more dangerous. **Darklords** is a 96-page accessory that details the life, un-life, and characteristics of some of **Ravenloft's** most insidious villains. The **Darklords** expansion will allow the DM and player alike to encounter more of the hideous creatures that rule in the otherworldly realm of **Ravenloft**. The retail price of **Darklords** is $10.95.

Also coming out in the month of August are the **Port of Ravens Bluff** and **Sons of Azca** accessories. **Port of Ravens Bluff** is the next installment in the **Forgotten Realms Living City** campaign world, and details the port, harbor, ships, crews, and all other encounters for the wharf-area of Ravens Bluff. This 64-page accessory retails for $9.95.

Sons of Azca is the first in a series of accessories that will help to define the **Hollow World** campaign setting. This volume will cover the area known as the Kingdom of Azca (picking up where GAZ14 left off). The 96-page volume includes both a players and a referees section. The retail price is $10.95.

Darklords ™ &©1991 TSR, Inc.

Some New Colossal Miniatures

The fine folks at **Grenadier Models** are set to release two more additions to their impressive **Collosal Lords** series--**Gwydion the Wizard** and **Draconia the Dragon Empress**. Both miniatures are in the 54mm scale and feature characters in dramatic poses. Gwydion is the menacing old wizard carrying his ever-present walking stick and a candelabra, while the shapely Draconia sits atop her mound of treasure, guarding it from would-be thieves. Both miniature are set for an August release at a cost of $19.95.

miniatures ™ &©1991 Grenadier Models

ICE Converts Silent Death To Unleaded

The popular game of interstellar combat, **Silent Death**, is about to see a new edition--largely because ICE decided to get the lead out. **The Silent Death Unleaded Boxed Game** is the same game that was released about a year ago with one exception--like the name promises, this version has none of the lead miniatures that were in the first set. What does this mean? Well mostly it means that you can enjoy this fast paced game of ship-to-ship combat in space for under half the price of the original--only $20.00! **The Silent Death Unleaded Boxed Game** comes with a complete set of counters for the ships; it will be released in August.

Heart of Darkness Beats Its Way Onto Shelves

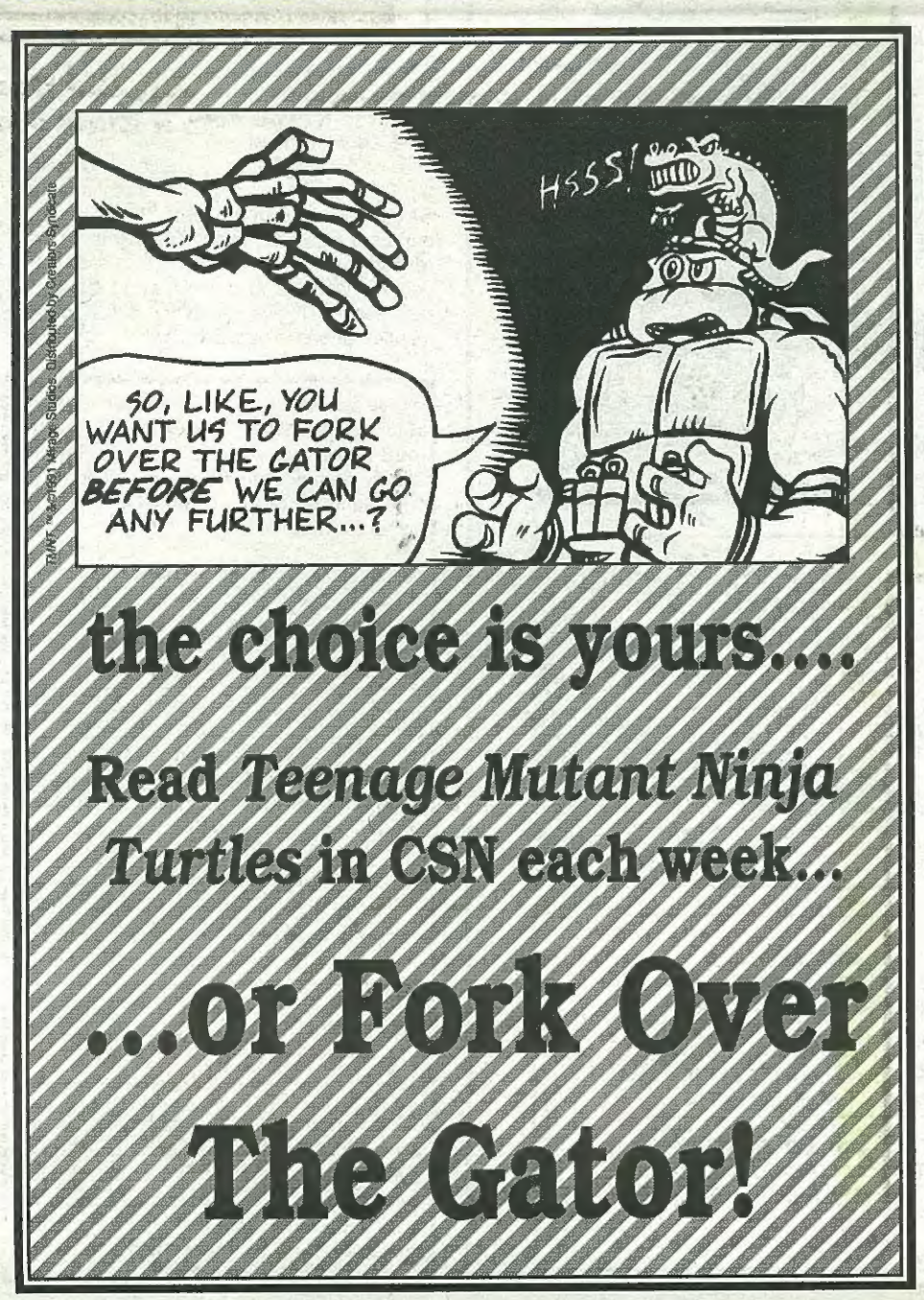
Ever wonder what was at the center of **GDW's Dark Conspiracy** game? **The Heart of Darkness** of course. This new 96-page supplement details an adventure farther into the core of the conspiracy than has ever been described before. Players travel into the lair of the ancient and evil Dark Ones to confront horrors previously thought unheard of--but beware, as Joseph Conrad knows, you can't walk into the Heart of Darkness and escape unchanged. **The Heart of Darkness** will appear in August, priced at only $12.00.

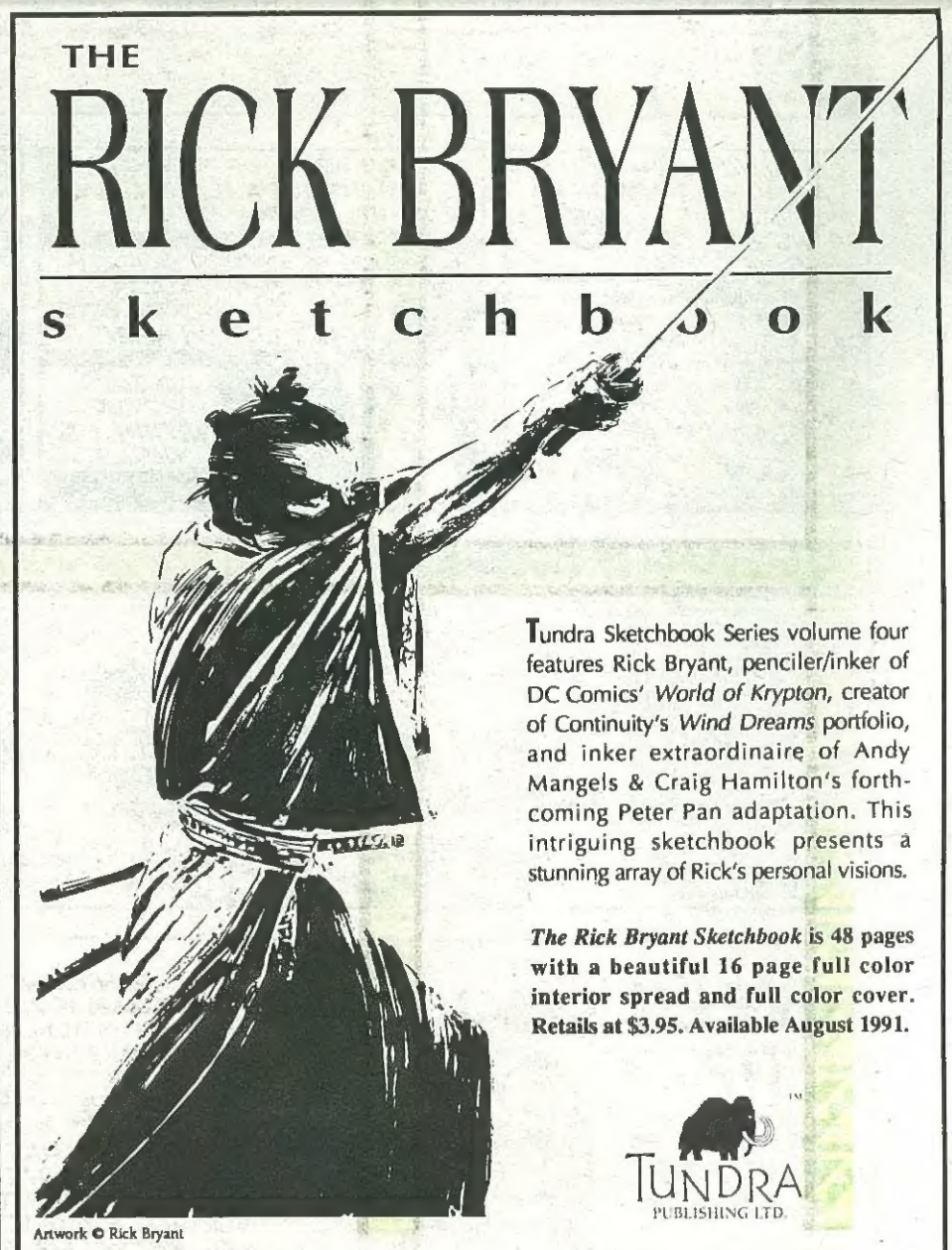
Gaming On A Cosmic Level

It's time to conquer another planet! The folks at **Mayfair Games** are giving you the chance of a lifetime--you and two to five of your best friends can vie for the opportunity to rule a world. **Cosmic Encounters** is the boardgame of interplanetary imperialism that lets you take the position of all powerful dictator. You get to defend your own planet from the ruthless invaders that threaten it, and go off to bring your own proper form of subjugation to the rest of the galaxy. The **Cosmic Encounters** boxed game will be out in August for the retail price of only $35.00; it's your chance to rule the galaxy--and how can you pass that up?

Finally, a Game With Horns!

Tired of living a life where you have to bathe, be polite, and avoid pointless, bloody battles? Well then, maybe you should try playing **GURPS Vikings**. This complete sourcebook allows you to enact all of the traditional Viking activities like plundering villages and breaking bones; it also details the armor, strategy information, maps, adventure ideas, and much more. Strap on your horned helmet and take your longboat to pick up **GURPS Vikings** this August--it's 128-pages of Nordic fun for only $16.95.


HSSS!
SO, LIKE, YOU WANT US TO FORK OVER THE GATOR BEFORE WE CAN GO ANY FURTHER...?
TMNT ™ and © 1991 Mirage Studios. Distributed by Creators Syndicate.
the choice is yours....
Read Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles in CSN each week...
...or Fork Over The Gator!


THE
RICK BRYANT
sketchbook
Tundra Sketchbook Series volume four features Rick Bryant, penciler/inker of DC Comics' World of Krypton, creator of Continuity's Wind Dreams portfolio, and inker extraordinaire of Andy Mangels & Craig Hamilton's forthcoming Peter Pan adaptation. This intriguing sketchbook presents a stunning array of Rick's personal visions.
The Rick Bryant Sketchbook is 48 pages with a beautiful 16 page full color interior spread and full color cover. Retails at $3.95. Available August 1991.
TUNDRA
PUBLISHING LTD.
Artwork © Rick Bryant
NUMBER FOUR IN THE TUNDRA SKETCHBOOK SERIES

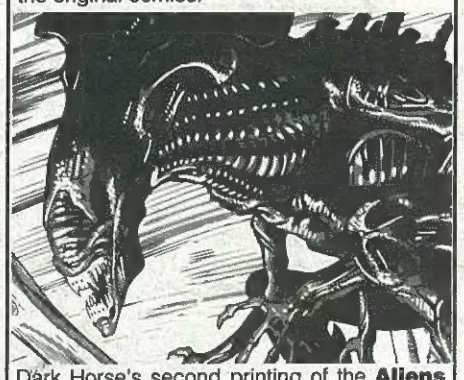
REALLY QUICKSHOTS

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES™

MAN, THESE DUDES ARE WORSE THAN HORSE-FLIES!
DON, ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE WAY MIKE'S DINO WENT?
SKREEE!
POSITIVE, BRO.
7-22
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 1991 MIRAGE STUDIOS
I JUST HOPE HE MADE IT PAST THESE PESKY PTEROSAURS!
HUH? WHERE AM I?
YOU HAVE GONE BACK THROUGH THE MUD OF AGES...
LET ME TELL YOU A STORY...
DON--ARE WE STILL ON MIKE'S TRAIL?!
THIS IS THE STORY OF THE DAYS WHEN THE SKIES OPENED UP...
...AND GREAT HORRORS WERE INFLICTED UPON THE WORLD.
IT WAS THE TIME OF THE GREAT DYINGS.
NO, BUT I'M HOPING THEY WENT IN A STRAIGHT LINE...
7-23
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 1991 MIRAGE STUDIOS
THE SKIES OPENED UP MANY TIMES, AND EACH TIME MORE OF THE GREAT REPTILES DIED..
WITH EACH OPENING OF THE SKY, THE WORLD CHANGED... AND BECAME MORE HOSTILE TO OUR WAY OF LIFE... WHAT--
WHAT IS WRONG, COUSIN TURTLE?
THIS...THIS REMINDS ME TOO MUCH ABOUT THE HOLES IN THE OZONE LAYER... YOU...
YOU'RE BUMMING ME OUT, DUDE...!
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 1991 MIRAGE STUDIOS
7-24
C'MON, YOU GUYS-- QUIT PLAYING WILD KINGDOM AND GET OVER HERE SO WE CAN GET BACK ON MIKE'S TRAIL...!
IT WAS A TRAIL OF TEARS AS WE SOUGHT OUT A PLACE AWAY FROM THE DEADLY SKIES...
WE SEARCHED CAVERNS, FISSURES, FAULTS... UNTIL WE FOUND A PATH THAT LED US HERE...
TO THIS WORLD WITHIN THE WORLD.
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 1991 MIRAGE STUDIOS
CHILL. WE WERE JUST WAITING FOR YOU TWO TO SHOW UP.
RIGHT. NOW C'MON...WE'VE PICKED UP MIKE'S TRAIL AGAIN...
7-25
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 1991 MIRAGE STUDIOS
7-26
CLARBAIN LAWSON/ BERGER KELLEHER
SHEEN
??
GREEN TIP™
EVERY DAY IS EARTH DAY
7-27
DON'T USE STYROFOAM
STYROFOAM IS A TYPE OF PLASTIC THAT WE MOST OFTEN USE WHEN PACKING THINGS IN BOXES AND WHEN SERVING FAST FOOD "TO GO." STYROFOAM DOESN'T BIODEGRADE; IT'S A PERMANENT FORM OF TRASH. IT IS OFTEN MADE WITH CHEMICALS THAT FURTHER DEPLETE THE OZONE LAYER. SAY NO TO STYRO-FOAM--AND YES TO PACKAGING AND SERVICE PRODUCTS THAT CAN BE OR ARE RECYCLED.
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 1991 MIRAGE STUDIOS

Aliens Return!

The Aliens One Collection, reprinting the landmark limited series by Mark Verheiden and Mark Nelson, has been out of print since soon after its initial publication--which is ironic, since the reason for the trade paperback was to meet the unsatisfied demand for the series by fans who couldn't find copies of the original comics.



Aliens ™ &© 1991 Twentieth Century Fox.

Dark Horse's second printing of the **Aliens One Collection**, scheduled for August release, will once again make the six-issue black-and-white limited series available in an affordable $11.95 edition for fans who can't afford to spring for the valuable comics. There's a reason for fans who already have the book to take a look at the new edition, though: Dave Dorman supplies a new cover painting for the collection. Even better, Dark Horse has printed the entire book on an all-new bright white paper stock. Look for the **Aliens One Collection** in August.

Second--But Trying Harder!

At the recent Atlanta Comics Expo, Maggie Thompson, co-editor of **Comics Buyers' Guide**, presented the CBG Fan Awards--and we were very flattered to discover that **Comic Shop News** placed second in the category of "favorite publication about comics," coming in behind **Marvel Age**. We're particularly pleased with the strong support our readers showed for **CSN,** because through oversight, the CBG Award ballot was never run in **Comic Shop News**--and still over 300 of you folks out there voted for us as your favorite comics-related publication. Thanks for this sign that you like what we're doing here at **CSN**--and next year, we'll give you every reason to make us number one in this category!

Have you seen anything in this issue of ***Comic Shop News*** that you can't live without? Make sure you don't miss it; clip this handy coupon and write down the things that you want you comics shop owner to be sure to get for you!

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Address _____

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Phone _____

I gotta have 'em! Please reserve for me the following items mentioned in ***Comic Shop News!***

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Be sure to give this to your retailer. Do not send it to *CSN!* Your comics shop will make every effort to get the items you want; some items may require a down payment before your shop owner can get them for you; be sure to ask!

BATMAN™

by Loebs, Infantino & Nyberg

THEIR MINDS FREED, THE GUARDS SUBDUE THE MAD HATTER...
LET ME GO! I HATE THIS!
LOEBS, CINFA & NYBERG
WHILE, IN DISGUISE, BATMAN REALIZES...
TWO-FACE IS GONE!
MY CAPE AND COWL! BUT WHERE DID DENT GO?
ARKHAM ASYLUM
CRAKABOOM
LOEBS, CINFA & NYBERG
7/23/91
I SAVED BATMAN WHILE I WAS EVIL! THAT'S WRONG! WRONG!
BUT I CAN MAKE IT RIGHT! A GUNSHOT IS THE ULTIMATE COIN-FLIP!
I CAN'T SEE... DENT MUST BE NEARBY...
LOEBS, CINFA & NYBERG
HARVEY...!
YES.
7/24/91
SHALL I SHOOT YOU OR MYSELF? ONE COIN TOSS AND WE'LL KNOW!
HARVEY ...?
BE QUIET! THE COIN WILL DECIDE.
LOEBS, CINFA & NYBERG
THE COIN SAYS...
...IT SAYS...
7/25/91
IT DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING. IT'S JUST A COIN.
HARVEY... LOOK AT ME.
MY GOD... BRUCE!
LOEBS, CINFA & NYBERG
7/26/91
I'VE TAKEN OFF MY MASK, HARVEY. NOW TAKE OFF YOURS.
YOU CAN TAKE OFF YOUR MASK, BRUCE. I CAN'T DO THE SAME--!
LOEBS, CINFA & NYBERG
YOU CAN CHOOSE TO HEAL THE SCARS INSIDE, HARVEY.
THEY'RE WHAT KEEP YOU TWO-FACE ...NOT YOUR FACE.
7/27/91
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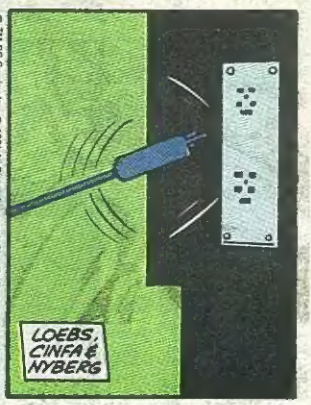

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